

Serving the more than 6,600 employees and residents on Arsenal Island

# The ROCK



July 2006

Volume 5, Number 6

# Appreciation Day for everyone

On July 27, Team RIA Appreciation Day will be held at Memorial Field. This event will give us all the opportunity to get together with our coworkers and family members in order to have some fun and leave our workplace stress behind for a few hours.

In my view, the Soldiers we support have paid the price for us to celebrate our achievements, to enjoy our freedoms and the pleasures of family and friends... It's been a high price, indeed, so we will do our best to be our best.

From bullets to beans – and myriad things between – Team RIA has been a vital contributor to our Army's fight for freedom. Our celebration is the sweet taste of Liberty, bought and paid for by Soldiers, civilians and contractors.

The folks who are planning Team RIA Appreciation Day have done a magnificent job, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work. They've developed an agenda that includes athletic competitions, entertainment, children's activities, games, food, refreshments and more – there'll be something for everyone to enjoy!

The main reason we decided to hold Team RIA Appreciation Day can be found in its title. Those of us who lead the activities and commands on Arsenal Island, really do appreciate the tremendous effort put forth each and every day by the people who work here. Unfortunately, in the crush of business, we may not always take the time to tell you how thankful we are for all that you do.

Team RIA Appreciation Day is our way of saying: "Thank you very much for a job very well done!" I hope that message comes through loud and clear, and I hope you know how much your contributions are valued, by leaders at this installation and also by

leaders at higher levels.

We all do very important work at Rock Island Arsenal, no matter what our organization's mission or what specific tasks we complete. Generally, we are in the business of supporting America's Armed Forces and helping them achieve a high level of readiness. Our performance directly impacts their performance in combat. Though we should never take ourselves too seriously, we are required to take our work



Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson

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*"The diligence and dedication shown by all those who work on the Arsenal deserves to be recognized and rewarded."*

– Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson  
Commanding General

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very seriously, especially at a time when thousands of our fellow Americans are deployed overseas fighting terrorists and defending our freedom.

The diligence and dedication shown by all those who work on the Arsenal deserves to be recognized and rewarded. Given the pressure we've operated under lately, we also need a break, and a time when we come together in a relaxed atmosphere.

Team RIA Appreciation Day will give us an opportunity to do that. I hope this event helps build some esprit de corps, and helps us all to get to know one another better.

Most of all, I hope that we all have a lot of fun! Team RIA Appreciation Day is going to be great; see you there!

## AFSC changing, taking new name

(Army Materiel Command) In order to streamline end-to-end logistics in support of the Army's modular force, the Army recently approved the establishment of a new subordinate command under the Army Materiel Command.

This change transforms AMC's Army Field Support Command at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., to the Army Sustainment Command. The AFSC has already begun its transition to the ASC, with a ceremonial activation set for this fall.

"The Army is transforming and so is the Army Materiel Command," said Greg Kee, AMC deputy chief of staff, G-5, strategic plans and policy. "The Army has transformed to a brigade centric Army and AMC is realigning its organizational structures to support the Army modular

force from the brigade to the national level," he said.

Transitioning into the ASC expands AFSC's current mission, which already includes managing the Army's prepositioned stocks, the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) and field support. Kee noted that this transformation adds reset synchronization, distribution and materiel management functions and integrating logistics support with joint and strategic partners.

To more closely support combatant commands, ASC will add authorizations for several hundred Soldiers, while realigning a number of civilians with the command's global operations.

"Standing-up the ASC is a step in the right direction to improve logistical support

to the Warfighter for several reasons, said Lt. Gen. William Mortensen, AMC deputy commanding general. "ASC enables us to be more responsive and provides a single interface point to the Soldier in the field for acquisition, logistics and technology. Converting AFSC to ASC will link the industrial Army to the expeditionary Army and help provide greater logistical integration and support to deploying forces as well as redeploying and training forces," he said.

Kee acknowledged change brings challenges, but AMC is prepared to face them head-on.

"We are working with operational commanders to ensure that there is no gap in logistics capability to the Warfighter as we transform."



# Passing the torch helps employees, mission

**T**his month is a very special month in my life. I'm turning 60! The first year of baby-boomers is also turning 60 this year.

The world has changed a lot during this time. Xerographic photocopying was invented in 1946 and the first computer was developed to help the Defense Department compute its firing and ballistics tables. The Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator (ENIAC) filled a thirty by fifty-foot room and weighed thirty tons. We've come a long way with computer and electronic technology since then. Let's not forget how inflation has increased over the years. When I was born the price of gasoline averaged 16 cents per gallon and today it averages \$2.85 per gallon.

As I've approached this milestone in my life, I've started to think about retirement and my life after retirement. What will I be doing? What do I want to do? Do I want to do anything?

I've also thought about other Arsenal employees who are in my age group. We will all be retiring in the next few years. Forty-seven percent of the Arsenal's permanent federal workforce will be eligible for optional retirement in five years. What does this mean for the Arsenal workforce/mission?

With any retirement, an organization loses a lot of knowledge and expertise. Now is the time to start preparing the younger employees to take over the reins as we retire. The transition will be easier if we've prepared them for the jobs ahead.

Years ago, when most of us baby-boomers started our careers, some of us had the opportunity of being trained by employees who were about to, or approaching, retirement. That opportunity gave us the knowledge to carry on the mission after employees retired without missing deadlines or delaying missions because

we knew something about the jobs. No one can gain 25 to 30 years experience by training with someone, but you can gain the basics and how to trouble-shoot certain situations.

One thing I've learned in my sixty years is that we all learn from one another. I've said it many times over the years, because it's true and we all need to remember that.

Nowadays, it's sometimes difficult for employees to be able to train with retiring employees because of the workload. We need to make an effort to make sure we pass on our knowledge and expertise before we retire. That is one reason to become a mentor to our newer employees. We show them the "ropes" and we give them the background and information we have gained over our many years of service.

Rock Island Arsenal has the reputation of getting the mission done and we will continue to do that. There's no doubt in my mind that the younger generations can carry on, but we still need to guide and teach them. And in the process, we might learn something also!

I want to extend my personal Happy Birthday wishes to all the 1946'ers on Arsenal Island.



**Alan G. Wilson**

*(On the Cover) Firefighters from local Fire Departments train at the Quad City Fire Training Center at Rock Island Arsenal during a two-week rope rescue training course. Photo by Valerie Buckingham*

Answer to June's **Do you know?** Rock Island Arsenal Museum is the second oldest U.S. Army Museum. Which Army museum is the oldest?

**Answer:** The West Point Museum at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, NY.



**Manecke**

## Congratulations!

Larry Manecke, USAG Rock Island Arsenal, is the winner of the first annual IMA NW Region 2005 Attorney of the Year - Honorable Mention. Manecke won in the Specific Assignment category.

*The ROCK* is an unofficial publication for members of the Rock Island Arsenal community. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Garrison or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of *The ROCK* is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Garrison -- Rock Island Arsenal. Contributions to *The ROCK* are welcome. Postal address: Garrison Manager, Rock Island Arsenal, RIA-PA, Rock Island, Ill. 61299-5000. E-mail address: RIA-PA@ria.army.mil Phone: (309) 782-1121. Printed circulation: 3,000. *The ROCK* is available on-line at: [www.ria.army.mil](http://www.ria.army.mil).



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Editor

# More than just a shield

**By Valerie Buckingham**  
The ROCK Editor

Early mornings, late nights, holidays and weekends are a typical workday for the Rock Island Arsenal Law Enforcement Division.

Even though the Arsenal police are faced with the same dangers as law enforcement officers serving in state and city municipalities, many people don't take them, or the traffic citations they give, seriously.

Capt. Richard Gonzalez, shift commander, said when some people get a citation they think it's just an installation ticket and it's not like a state or city citation, but they're wrong. Citations issued on the Arsenal are prosecuted in Rock Island Federal Court. Currently, the Arsenal has more than 400 outstanding citations.

The law enforcement division is comprised of federal police officers and federal guards.

Gonzalez said some people don't see them as officers, but see all of them as guards.

"We're Department of Defense federal police officers. We're not ticket hungry. We are here for your safety," Gonzalez said.

He said it's dangerous for law enforcement officers and guards on the installation and he makes sure to emphasize safety to the officers.

"We don't know who we're dealing with out there. This is the real deal and we take it very seriously when something happens," Gonzalez said.

"You're safer in numbers than you are doing it alone. Safety is our number one concern."

One of the challenges the officers and guards face is to get everyone through the gate as efficiently as possible while maintaining security standards.

"The average employee doesn't understand all the security standards we have to go through, so we try to make it as pleasant as possible for them and still meet those standards," said Master Sgt. Chris Cowles, traffic sergeant.

Approximately 105,000 vehicles travel onto the Arsenal during a week and Cowles, an eight-year law enforcement veteran, said they try to put smiles on peoples faces as they come to work, not because that's part of the job, but it's who they are.

"The person that gets into this field is the person that wants

to help the public and serve the community. That's what we do here just like the police officers in the communities," he said. "Sometimes it's not an easy job. It's nice when the people we come in contact with have patience, understanding and respect."

Gonzalez and Cowles both say there is a good group of officers and guards on Arsenal Island who compliment each others' talents and that makes a successful team.

"We have good coordination and communication between the officers and guards. When you don't have that, you're going to run into problems," Cowles said.



Valerie Buckingham

Capt. Richard Gonzalez runs a radar detector on Arsenal Island. There are more than 400 outstanding traffic citations on the installation.

## Bi-State school districts sign U.S. Army Education MOA

(ROCK staff reports) Geneseo Community Unit School District, Geneseo, Ill. and Davenport Community Schools, Davenport, Iowa, have signed the U.S. Army Secondary Educational Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement.

This MOA is designed to address transition challenges for high school students and is adopted by the signers in a way that models and exemplifies partnership, flexibility, inclusiveness, and information sharing for all schools that serve high school age military students. There are more than 175,000 secondary school-aged students of military personnel worldwide and these students are faced with numerous transitions during their formative years.

Geneseo is the first school district in Illinois and Davenport is the first school district in Iowa to sign the MOA. Currently, the MOA has 220 signatories and 224 school districts worldwide. The MOA is an agreement between school districts.

By signing the MOA, the school districts agree to establish

procedures to lessen the adverse impact of moves, develop systems to ease student transition during the first two weeks of enrollment, improve the timely transfer of records, promote practices which foster access to extracurricular programs and create and implement professional development systems.

"We've long realized that such transitions are very important in terms of both student achievement and in helping students feel connected to their school," said Karen Farley, spokesperson for Davenport Community Schools. "... we feel we have something to offer all students."

The signing of the MOA is significant to the local area because of the future increase of military personnel to Rock Island Arsenal. Efforts are being made to obtain additional local signatories to the MOA.

This initiative was spearheaded by Shane McDonough, school liaison officer with Child and Youth Services.





photos by Ted Cavanaugh

## New Fire Training Center Opens

A grand opening ceremony for the Quad Cities Fire Training Center at Rock Island Arsenal was May 30. (Clockwise) Chris Marten, Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department, demonstrates how to rescue a person from a collapsed building. RIA firefighters demonstrate rescuing a person from a building. Assistant Fire Chief Terry McMaster helps Courtney Brennan, a reporter with WQAD News Channel 8 in Moline, Ill. get suited up to go in the new training center during a simulated fire rescue. An Arsenal Firefighter looks for the rescue ladder during a simulated fire rescue. The center has three buildings that enable firefighters to train for scenarios such as confined spaces, structural collapse and high rope rescue.

## ECBC opens new Network Operations vault

**By Jason Gabbard**

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Rock Island Site unveiled its new Secure Network Operations vault on May 24. The Information Technology Solutions Team began renovating the vault in Building 60, second floor, in the fall of 2005.

The Secure Operations vault came on-line and secure in early-May. It follows all security policy, protocol, and regulations for the handling, storage, and transmission of secure information. The current Secure

Network Operations Vault offers a full service Secure Internet Protocol Routing Network Internet Service Provider using modern technical capabilities.

The SIPRNet functions and supports any Department of Defense agency or military branch. The ISP establishes efficient and effective capabilities in a wide range of capacities.

Continuing its tradition of expert computer programming and problem-solving, the ECBC ITST plans to utilize the vault's SIPRNet to provide even more services and functions to Island tenants as well as other government agencies.

In addition to the SIPRNet, the vault provides secure telephone, fax and e-mail services, and plans are underway to provide secure video teleconference capabilities in the near future.

ITST Team Leader Len Guldenpfennig believes the expansion will better serve the information security needs facing government agencies today.

"This is a great enhancement for classified information system capabilities," Guldenpfennig said.

"Historically the SIPRNet technical options have been limited. We are striving to improve the situation."

# DFAS employee leads 'adoption' effort

**By Jay Schaaf**

DFAS Corporate Resources

A DFAS Rock Island employee's reaction to the tragedy of 9-1-1 has grown into a continuing effort to support our troops. Cindy Nicholson joined the Red Cross two days after the 2001 attacks and served several months in New York City assisting those directly affected by the disaster.

After returning home, she became interested in the Treasures for Troops program created to support U.S. troops deployed to Afghanistan in the search for terrorists. Along with other federal employees, Nicholson collected money and donated items for delivery to the Red

Cross. Then, because of security concerns, the Red Cross quit accepting donated items from the public, opting instead to create a standardized box of comfort items that, for a \$25 donation, could be sent to our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. But people still wanted to donate items directly. So, Nicholson spoke with military families and searched military websites. Her efforts found the Adopt a Platoon program. Under that program, approved groups may put together donated items themselves for shipment to the troops.

The concept of Adopt a Platoon is to take care of a particular group of Soldiers for the duration of their deployment. Contact is actually made with the Soldiers, who can request particular items for inclusion in their packages. When that group returns

home, a new platoon assignment is made.

DFAS-RI has now supported five platoons in Iraq. The platoons have ranged in size from as few as 11 members to as many as 31 members. For the past few years, DFAS employees have sent anywhere from six to ten boxes of items to their assigned platoon at least three times a year.

The latest platoon adopted by DFAS under the program is comprised of 31 Soldiers serving in Afghanistan. The generosity of DFAS employees, along with help from Army Field Support Command employees at Rock Island Arsenal, enabled organizer to fill 19 boxes with comfort items for the Soldiers. Monetary donations covered the nearly \$400 cost of shipping. When asked how long the effort will continue, Nicholson replied, "Until it isn't needed anymore."

## CFC Wants You!

The Illowa Bi-State Combined Federal Campaign is now recruiting Loaned Executives for the 2006 campaign. The Loaned Executive Program was initiated in 1971 by Presidential

Order. A Loaned Executive is a federal employee that is "loaned" by their agency to work on the CFC. They are the volunteer force for the CFC, visiting federal and postal employees throughout the 12-county geographic regions, promoting the campaign.

The LE Program is a developmental assignment offered to high potential individuals (civilian and military) within the major federal agencies in our geographic area. These exciting and challenging positions give individuals the opportunity to work with people from various federal agencies and local non-profit organizations. The LE program provides training and experience in leadership, public speaking, marketing, program management, time management, team building, fund raising, and the opportunity to gain the understanding of the role that non-profit organizations hold in our local communities. For more information call (309) 782-2512 or (309) 782-7746.

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## Congratulations!



**WESEMANN**

Jodie Wesemann, Museum Technician with the Rock Island Arsenal Museum, received the Louisiana Commendation Medal from Maj. Gen. Bennett C.

Landreneau, Adjutant General of Louisiana.

This medal was

presented for exceptionally meritorious service while assisting the Louisiana National Guard in museum recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

For a detailed account of her assistance to the Jackson Barracks Military Museum in New Orleans, see "Employee lends helping hand to Louisiana museum" in the June issue of *The ROCK*. The June issue can be viewed on the website at <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/news/default.asp> under 'view past issues.'



# Employees spread kindness across the waters

by **Rebecca Montgomery**

TACOM LCMC Rock Island  
Public Affairs

It's not easy to have a picnic in Kuwait, especially when you don't have the stuff you need.

So the A3 Bradley team from TACOM LCMC Rock Island's Light Combat Product Support Integration Directorate is sending a "picnic in a box" to Soldiers at Camp Navistar, Kuwait.

The team is sending the unique care package to friends and family from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 123<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery National Guard, Milan, Ill., including Margie Emmert's son, Staff Sgt. Rob Emmert; Pam Canterbury's son, Sgt. James Canterbury; and Linda Morrow's long-time family friend LTC Craig Hess.

"This is the third package our team has sent to Kuwait," said Ms. Emmert, contract specialist.

The box contains picnic supplies including pickles, mustard, home made cookies, fixings for smores, table cloths and utensils.

Not only that, the package will contain a collage of letters and a class photo from third graders at Garfield School, Davenport, Iowa.

Team member Katie Riessen, item manager, asked her daughter Analise's third grade teacher at the school if her class would like to do something for the Soldiers.

"The letters became a class project," explained Ms. Emmert. "The

kids wanted to say thank you for serving our country and please be safe."

Analise and other employees' children had visited TACOM LCMC Rock Island last year during Take Your Child to Work Day, and made a flag that the team sent to



courtesy photo

Margie Emmert, contract specialist (left), and Linda Morrow, provisioner, both of TACOM LCMC Rock Island's Light Combat Product Support Integration Directorate, show items for the "picnic in a box" care package the A3 Bradley team is sending to Soldiers in Kuwait.

Kuwait.

"It was so neat when the kids made the flag," said Ms. Morrow, provisioner. "Since we didn't have a Take Your Child to Work Day last month, this year the kids came to us."

## Mortgage company makes Arsenal Island home

By **Linda Linn**

Carteret Mortgage Corporation

Carteret Mortgage Corporation located to the Rock Island Arsenal on April 28 as an Arsenal Support Program Initiative tenant. Carteret Mortgage understands the unique and sometimes difficult circumstances of the American Soldier and the life challenges they ultimately may face, and is eager to enhance and compliment the services the Rock Island Arsenal already has in place. They specifically and exclusively assist and serve educational and consultation needs in mortgage financing for the Warfighter and the support staff.

Carteret's goal on the Rock Island Arsenal is to improve the knowledge and understanding of the mortgage process by offering no cost, no obligation consultations and education. This goal provides to the Warfighter and support staff a better understanding of the mortgage financial decisions and options they may choose to make.

In the end, the goal is to provide Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and support staff a valuable resource for enhancing

their skills in their decision making process for refinancing or purchasing a home.

In addition, Carteret Mortgage waives the processing fee from closing costs for the Warfighter who has served in Iraq or Afghanistan as a small token of our appreciation for defending and sacrificing for our great country.

In support of the Warfighter and support staff at the Carteret Rock Island Arsenal Branch, Carteret will donate \$50 in the name of the borrower(s) to the Army Emergency Relief Fund for every loan closed on the Rock Island Arsenal.

Carteret Mortgage is a wholesale mortgage broker established in 1995 with our corporate office located in Centreville Virginia. As a wholesale broker they have more than 400 lenders to choose from. Carteret's wholesale lenders are the same retail lenders you may see on your street corner. However, these lenders also have a division on the wholesale side with different rates and different underwriting guidelines. They have extensive lending products and are able to do loans that may otherwise not be able to be done. Also, they are licensed in 49 states and are a Fortune 500 Company.

For more information, call (309) 283-0313 or (563) 332-0483.

Missed an issue of The ROCK? You can view past issues on the Rock Island Arsenal website at <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/news/default.asp>.

# JMC transportation division receives award

**By Margaret Browne**

AFSC and JMC Public Communications

The Joint Munitions Command and Joint Munitions Command facilities were recently honored for the development and use of a system that streamlines the tracking and inventory of ISO containers. A plaque and Letter of Appreciation were presented by the Army Intermodal and Distribution Platform Management Office during the Army Worldwide Container Training Workshop in May.

The award citation read in part: "The JMC's personnel have always demonstrated

professionalism and dedication in support of AIDPMO's mission and the U.S. Army. Their outstanding efforts have greatly enhanced the U.S. Army's ability to manage and account for containers and intermodal distribution platforms worldwide."

The JMC Logistics Integration Transportation staff and representatives from Anniston Munitions Center, Blue Grass Army Depot, Crane Army Ammunition Activity, Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, Letterkenny Munitions Center, McAlester Army Ammunition Plant and Tooele Army Depot were on hand to receive the award.

The system, Army Container Asset Management System, is a web-based, real-

time system used by the Army to inventory, track and trace containers used and leased by all service components. The system came online in June 2005.

"JMC and their subordinate commands enjoy working with the AIDPMO staff, not only with ACAMS but other container concerns and issues," said Abby Arensdorff, container management officer, JMC Transportation Office. "AIDPMO is very customer orientated and always willing to listen and take comments and suggestions to better the system and improve all container processes. ACAMS has become an integral part of container management throughout the Army," she said.

## Army moves closer to IT consolidation

(Federal Computer Week) The Army is moving ahead with plans to consolidate information technology user services in centralized Area Processing Centers, which will host a variety of common services, such as e-mail, Web services and storage-area networks. Two APCs are under construction and will have initial operating capabilities later this year.

The Army is installing equipment at APCs in Oklahoma City and Columbus, Ohio, which will be the first two active centers. The Oklahoma City APC will be ready in September, and the Columbus one will go active in November, said Joe Capps, director of Enterprise Systems Technology Activity, a division of the Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (Netcom).

The Army hopes the new centers will improve user services by simplifying network management, increasing security and reducing wait times while lowering IT ownership costs.

The Army Garrison Rock Island Arsenal will be the first installation to move its IT user services to an APC. The migration of services from the arsenal will begin in late September or early October, Capps said. A second unit, at Fort Riley, Kan., will begin moving services in December or January 2007.

The implementation of the APCs will occur in two phases. Phase 1 consists of opening the first two APCs and migrating services from two installations. Phase 2 begins after the first two achieve full operating capability. Phase 2 will involve consolidating services from multiple installations across the continental United States.

No workforce shifts will occur when IT services move to APCs. The centers will run "lights out" or at least "lights dim," meaning that only minimal on-site maintenance employees

## The torch crosses the Island



Valerie Buckingham

(Left) Rolla Lucas, Davenport, Iowa, and (right) John Focht, Council Bluffs, Iowa, hold the Special Olympics Torch "Flame of Hope" on Arsenal Island June 25 before boarding a U.S. Coast Guard ship to be transported across the Mississippi River into Iowa. The two, along with others, were part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run final leg which proceeded down Rodman Avenue. Rock Island Arsenal Police Chief Larry Blocker and Assistant Chief Jerry Meier participated in the run.

will be necessary. Both APCs will be near other data centers so employees can take on part-time maintenance work, too, Capps said.

The Continental U.S. Theater Network Operations and Security Center at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., will remotely operate most APC functions. The Defense Information Security Agency will be the facility operator at each site, according to a Netcom press release. In total, the Army expects six APCs to cover the continental United States, Capps said, although that number could change. (This article originally published by Federal Computer Week, FWC.com, June 13, 2006.)